

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05987 01 OF 02 191718Z
ACTION SS-25

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USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 5987

EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: DEPUTY MINISTER SEMENOV'S STATEMENT OF JULY 19, 1977
(SALT TWO -1290)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY DEPUTY MINISTER
SEMENOV AT THE SALT TWO MEETING OF JULY 19, 1977.

SEMENOV STATEMENT, JULY 19, 1977

I

AT TODAY'S MEETING THE USSR DELEGATION INTENDS TO
ADDRESS THE QUESTIONS CONCERNING ARTICLE XI OF THE JOINT
DRAFT TEXT--ON DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF STRATEGIC
OFFENSEVE ARMS WHICH WOULD BE IN EXCESS OF THE NUMBERS
SPECIFIED IN THE AGREEMENT BEING WORKED OUT, AND OF STRA-
TEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS PROHIBITED THEREUNDER.

IN THE INTERESTS OF EDITORIAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE WORDING
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05987 01 OF 02 191718Z

BEING WORKED OUT, THE USSR DELEGATION PROPOSES THAT IN
ARTICLE XI, PAR. 1, THE PHRASE "UNDER PROCEDURES AGREED UPON
IN THE STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION" READ AS FOLLOWS:
"UNDER PROCEDURES TO BE AGREED UPON IN THE STANDING CONSULTA-
TIVE COMMISSION." THE PROPOSED REVISION MORE ADEQUATELY
EXPRESSES THE MEANING OF THIS PROVISION OF THE DRAFT AND
CORRESPONDS TO OTHER ALREADY AGREED FORMULATIONS.

AS FOR ARTICLE XI, PAR. 2, THE USSR DELEGATION IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSE THAT THE FORMULATION "SHALL BEGIN ON THE DAY OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THIS AGREEMENT" BE USED IN PLACE OF THE WORDS " SHALL BEGIN ON OCTOBER 3, 1977." MENTION OF THE SPECIFIC DATE ON WHICH THE NEW AGREEMENT BECOMES EFFECTIVE IS APPROPRIATE IN THE CONCLUDING PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. AND IT IS CONTAINED THERE--IN ARTICLE XIX, PAR. 1. IN ARTICLE XI, PAR. 2, A MORE GENERAL FORMULA IS NEEDED--AND THAT IS WHAT WE ARE PROPOSING.

THUS, THE TEXT OF ARTICLE XI WOULD BE WORDED AS FOLLOWS:

"ARTICLE XI

1. STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS WHICH WOULD BE IN EXCESS OF THE NUMBERS SPECIFIED IN THIS AGREEMENT AS WELL AS STRATEGIC OFFENSEIVE ARMS PROHIBITED BY THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE DISMANTLED OR DESTROYED UNDER PROCEDURES TO BE AGREED UPON IN THE STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION.

2. DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS WHICH WOULD BE IN EXCESS OF THE NUMBERS SPECIFIED IN THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BEGIN ON THE DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THIS AGREEMENT AND SHALL BE COMPLETED WITHIN THE FOLLOWING PERIODS FROM THAT DATE: FOUR MONTHS FOR ICBM LAUNCHERS; SIX
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SECRET

PAGE 03 GENEVA 05987 01 OF 02 191718Z

MONTHS FOR SLBM LAUNCHERS; THREE MONTHS FOR HEAVY BOMBERS. DISMANTLING OR DESTRUCTION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS PROHIBITED BY PROVISIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE COMPLETED WITHIN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE AGREED PERIOD OF TIME, BUT NOT LATER THAN SIX MONTHS AFTER THOSE PROVIDIONS BECOME EFFECTIVE."

THE USSR DELEGATION PROCEEDS FROM THE PREMISE THAT THE EDITORIAL CHANGES PROPOSED FOR ARTICLE XI WILL BE APPROPRIATELY CONSIDERED AND FORMALIZED IN THE WORKING GROUP.

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 05987 02 OF 02 191851Z

ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 5987

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y F O R T E X T

USSALTTWO

II

MR. AMBASSADOR,

THE QUESTION OF THE LOCATION OF ICBM TEST RANGES HAS BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE COURSE OF THE ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE DELEGATIONS.

THE USSR DELEGATION HAS REPEATEDLY SET FORTH THE SOVIET SIDE'S APPROACH TO THIS MATTER IN A WELL-REASONED MANNER, AT DELEGATION MEETINGS, AS WELL AS IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS.

I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE AGAIN THAT THE SOVIET SIDE PROCEEDS FROM THE PREMISE THAT THE LOCATION OF THE CURRENT TEST RANGES AT WHICH ICBMS ARE TESTED ARE RELIABLY AND ACCURATELY DETERMINED BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS, AND THAT IN THIS CONNECTION THERE ARE NO MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF ANY KIND.
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05987 02 OF 02 191851Z

AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE TAKEN NOTE OF THE DESIRE EXPRESSED BY THE U.S. SIDE, AT THE JUNE 29, 1977 MEETING AMONG OTHERS, TO WORK OUT, AS IT WAS PUT, "AN AGREED STATEMENT RECORDING THE LOCATIONS OF EACH SIDE'S ICBM TEST RANGES AND A COMMITMENT TO INFORM THE OTHER SIDE OF ANY CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THOSE LOCATIONS."

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE INTEREST EXPRESSED BY THE U.S. SIDE, AND PROVIDED THAT PROGRESS IS MADE IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE DEFINITION OF LAND-BASED

ICBM LAUNCHERS, THE USSR DELEGATION IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS
TO PROPOSE AN AGREED STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH ARTICLE VII
OF THE DRAFT, IN THE FOLLOWING WORDING:

"AGREED STATEMENT TO ARTICLE VII

THE PARTIES AGREE THAT CURRENT TEST RANGES AT WHICH ICBMS
ARE TESTED ARE LOCATED IN THE SOVIET UNION IN THE AREAS OF
TYURA-TAM AND PLESETSKAYA, AND IN THE UNITED STATES NEAR
SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, AND ON CAPE CANAVERAL, FLORIDA.
IF IN THE FUTURE EITHER PARTY ESTABLISHES AN ADDITIONAL
TEST RANGE AT WHICH ICBMS ARE TESTED, OR CHANGES THE LOCA-
TION OF SUCH A CURRENT TEST RANGE, THAT PARTY SHALL INFORM
THE OTHER PARTY IN THE STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION OF
THE NEW LOCATION OF SUCH TEST RANGES."

THE SOVIET SIDE ALSO PROPOSES THAT THE NEGOTIATING
RECORD REFLECT THE COMMON UNDERSTANDING THAT AT THE TEST
RANGES AT WHICH ICBMS ARE TESTED, ARMS NOT COVERED BY THE
AGREEMENT BEING WORKED OUT MAY ALSO BE TESTED.

THE USSR DELEGATION PROCEEDS FROM THE PREMISE THAT
SPECIFIC QUESTIONS INVOLVED IN DRAWING UP AN UNDERSTANDING
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PAGE 03 GENEVA 05987 02 OF 02 191851Z

ON THIS SCORE WILL BE CONSIDERED IN THE DRAFTING GROUP.
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